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Dec 8, 1980

PUB-NO: JP355157517A

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: JP 55157517 A

TITLE: ANTIVIRAL DRUG AND ITS PREPARATION

PUBN-DATE: December 8, 1980

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APPL-NO: JP53162087

APPL-DATE: December 29, 1978

US-CL-CURRENT: 424/195.15

INT-CL (IPC): A61K 35/84; A61K 35/84; A61K 35/84

ABSTRACT:

PURPOSE: To obtain an antiviral drug useful in the treatment of virus hepatitis, influenza, cancer, etc. from the cultivation products of the mycelium of a mushroom, e.g. Cortinellus shiitake, belonging to the Basidiomycetes.

CONSTITUTION: The hypha of a mushroom, e.g. Cortinellus shiitake, Pleurotus ostreatus, Flammulina velutipes or Pholiota nameko, belonging to the Basidiomycetes is cultivated in a solid or liquid medium to form the mycelium, which is in turn extracted with an aqueous solvent. The extracted solution is then filtered to give an antiviral drug comprising as active constituents (A) the complexes of polysaccharides with cytokinin active substances consisting mainly of zeatin-related compounds, (B) the other metabolites of the mycelium, (C) the partial decomposition products of lignin, and furthermore (D) the constituents originally contained in the mycelium. These extracts are directly used for preparing the antiviral drug without being separated into specified fractions.

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